GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3936
ANSWERED ON:09.04.2003
RESEARCH ON INDIAN HERBS
PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the herbal industry is awaiting a decision from the World Health Organisation regarding the manufacture of certain drugs;

(b) if so, whether such a permission is mandatory;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Western countries have been conducting extensive research on Indian herbs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (c) The World Health Organization (WHO) has issued general guidelines for methodologies on research and evaluation of traditional medicines & Traditional Medicines Strategy for the member countries. WHO permission is not required for conducting any research.

(d) & (e) It is a known that Western countries are conducting research on Indian Herbs including, Bhumi Amalaki (Phyllanthus amarus), Nimba (Azadirachta indica) and Haridra (Curcuma longa) etc.